

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed October 22, 2007, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-14 remain in this application, where claims 10-14 are added.

By means of the present amendment, the current Abstract has been deleted and substituted with the enclosed New Abstract which better conforms to U.S. practice. Further, the specification has been amended to correct certain informalities.

By means of the present amendment, claims 1-9 have been amended for non-statutory reasons, such as for better form and clarity including beginning the dependent claims with 'The' instead of 'A', and deleting reference numerals typically used in European practice that are known to not limit the scope of the claims.

Claims 1-9 were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights under

the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In the Office Action, the Examiner noted the absence of a claim of priority in the specification under 35 U.S.C. §119. It is respectfully submitted that the present application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d), which is properly claimed in the Declaration, and has been acknowledged on the Filing Receipt. As the claim of priority is not under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) or 35 U.S.C. §120, it is believed that there is no need for a specific reference in the first sentence of the specification. Further, the present application is a national entry under 35 USC 371 of International Application No. PCT/IB2004/051353 (published as WO 2005/015766), and thus there is no need for including in the specification a reference to this International Application. Further, the Patent Application Publication (PAP) of the present application, namely, PAP No. 2006/0252370 correctly refers on the cover page to the International Application No. PCT/IB2004/051353, and thus there is no need to include in the specification a reference to this International Application No. PCT/IB2004/051353. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-2 and 4-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,293,400 (Monod) in view of WO 65/07521 (Thomas). Further, claims 3 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Monod in view of Thomas and U.S. Patent No. 6,766,141 (Briles). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-30 are patentable over Monod, Thomas and Briles for at least the following reasons.

Monod is directed to a contactless linking device for interconnecting data bus sections for bi-directional data transmission that include an echo-suppressor.

Thomas is directed to an inductive transmission system for a probe for use on a coordinate positioning machine such as a machine tool. The probe 10 has a coil 16 for inductively coupling signals across a small gap to a second coil 30 of a machine tool interface 12. Data signals pass from the probe 10 to the interface 12. Simultaneously, a power carrier signal and a command signal pass from the interface 12 to the probe 10. As shown in FIG 4, in order that all these signals can pass without mutual interference via the coils 16, 30, each signal has a carrier of a different frequency, and the signals are carried in frequency bands which do not

overlap.

It is respectfully submitted that Monod and Thomas, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 10-11 and 13-15 which, amongst other patentable elements, recites (illustrative emphasis provided):

wherein the first modulation frequency and the second modulation frequency are an even factor apart.

Frequencies being an even factor apart are nowhere taught or suggested in Monod, Thomas, and combination thereof. This provides substantial benefits, such as reducing interference, as compared to odd factors. Briles is cited in rejecting dependent claims to allegedly show other features and does not remedy the deficiencies Monod and Thomas.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 7 are allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-6 and 8-14 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1 and 7.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or

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averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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